

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 01314 191118Z

12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5618
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL DOUALA BY POUCH
AMEMBASSY BABORONES
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, CM

SUBJ: CAMEROONIAN COMMENTS ON DIALOGUE AND DISCUSSIONS WITH
SOUTH AFRICA

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH ACTING WITH USUAL DISCRETION IN REFRAINING
FROM PARTICIPATING PUBLICLY IN INTRA-AFRICAN DEBATE, GURC'S
SYMPATHIES SEEM LIE WITH AFRICAN HARDLINERS ON CURRENT SOUTH-
ERN AFRICAN POLICY ISSUES WITH GURC OPPOSED TO ANY MANNER OF
DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING FOREIGN MINISTER'S RETURN APRIL 12 FROM SPECIAL
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OAU MINISTERIAL MEETING IN DAR, GURC FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED

BRIEF COMMUNIQUE APRIL 14 WHICH SELECTIVELY STRESSED HARDLINE ASPECT OF DAR DECLARATION. NO OTHER PUBLIC COMMENTS MADE AND NO EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS APPEARED THUS FAR IN LOCAL PRESS.

3. FONMIN DIRECTOR FOR AFRICAN AND ASIAN AFFAIRS ETIAN ELLEIH ELLE, WHO ACCOMPANIED MINISTER TO DAR, TOLD DCM HE APPALLED BY PRESS INTERPRETATIONS WHICH SUGGESTED MEETING AUTHORIZED EAST AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. SAID 38 OF 42 HEADS OF DELEGATION SPOKE AT MEETING, OF WHOM 25-30 CLEARLY CONSIDERED THE EAST AFRICANS' INITIATIVE UNFORTUNATE. BLAMED TANZANIA FOR INTENTIONALLY PERPETRATING DISTORTION OF SENSE OF OAU MEETING THROUGH DAR PRESS. SAID FONMIN MALECEL A WAS SHARPLY CRITICIZED FOR THIS AT DAR AND OFFERED LAME DEFENSE THAT GOT UNABLE CONTROL WHAT LOCAL PRESS PRINTED.

4. ELLEIH ELLE POINTED OUT THAT OAU MINISTERS AT DAR MEETING CAME OUT STRONGLY AGAINST DIALOGUE, WHICH HAD BEEN REJECTED IN ADDIS ABABA OAU DECLARATION OF JUNE 1971 AND COULD NOW ONLY BE REGARDED AS "ACT OF TREASON" TO AFRICA. PORTION OF DAR DECLARATION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH DEVOTED TO RHODESIA GAVE NO RPT NO STAMP OF APPROVAL TO THE EAST AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO CONTINUE THEIR INITIATIVES. RATHER IT AFFIRMED THAT ALL ACTION MUST BE TAKEN WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF OAU, ONLY LIBERATION MOVEMENTS COULD NEGOTIATE, AND INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES COULD NOT SUBSTITUTE THEMSELVES FOR THOSE MOVEMENTS.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS NOT SEEN FULL TEXT OF DAR DECLARATION. WHETHER OR NOT ELLEIH ELLE'S INTERPRETATION OF THE DAR DISCUSSIONS AND DECLARATION IS FULLY ACCURATE, IT IS CONSISTENT WITH FONMIN COMMUNIQUE AND GENERAL REMARKS ON SUBJECT MADE BY FONMIN SEC GEN JOSEPH OWONO TO AMBASSADOR. CUMULATIVELY, ALL THESE INDICATORS SEEM REFLECT GURC HARLINE ATTITUDE NOT ONLY TOWARD "DIALOGUE" WITH SOUTH AFRICA A LA IVORY COAST AND LIBERIA, BUT ALSO TOWARD TANZANIA/ZAMBIAN-TYPE DISCUSSIONS ON RHODESIA.

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